THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Orissa Forestry Sector Development Project is being implemented with the Loan Assistance from The Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The project duration is 7 years starting from 2006-07 to 2012-13. The total cost of the project is 659.75 crore, including Rs.100.08 crores as State share. This project aims at promoting sustainable management of degraded forests and improvement in the livelihood sources of dependent population. The components of the project, *interalia*, include Sustainable Management of Natural Forests, Afforestation and Natural Regeneration of Degraded Forests, Backyard/Farm forestry, Wildlife Management and Biodiversity Conservation and Tribal and Community Development. This project is currently going on in Orissa as per schedule.

Effect of AC rail coaches on environment

†1099. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the environment is being affected by the AC rail coaches in which R-12 refrigerated technique is used;
 - (b) if so, the details of the efforts made to remove such coaches; and
 - (c) whether environment would be benefited as a result of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Emission of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS), including R-12 {chloroflurocarbon (CFC)-12} from air-conditioned rail coaches, causes depletion of the stratospheric Ozone Layer.

(b) and (c) India is a Party to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and has prepared the country programme to phase out the production and consumption of ODS, including R-12. Accordingly, the

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Railway Board has taken up steps to convert its air-conditioned railway coaches from R-12 gas to environment friendly refrigerant gas.

Financial assistance to Animal Welfare Organisations

1100. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Animal Welfare Board of India gives financial assistance to eligible Animal Welfare Organizations for regular schemes;
- (b) if so, the detail of eligible AWOs and regular schemes for which they have been given financial assistance during the last three years; and
- (c) how it is ensured that the financial assistance given is properly utilized for the purpose it was given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State wise details of financial assistance provided under the regular scheme of Animal Welfare Board of India, to eligible Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs), for the last three years, are annexed in the statements (See below).

Grants under the scheme are given to AWOs for the following components:—

- (i) Maintenance of Rescue Home for Animals
- (ii) Water Troughs/Water facilities
- (iii) Rescue operations during flood/cyclone/drought and other natural calamities and rescue of sick and abandoned animals including of accident cases
- (iv) Purchase of Medical Equipment
- (v) Purchase of Medicine
- (vi) Establishment charges-SPCA inspectors/Veterinary, Doctor/Veterinary Assistants/compounders, Ambulance Drivers, Field Staff etc.
- (vii) Furthering the objectives of Animal Welfare activities (initial grant)